DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Safe and Healthy Lives in Safe and Healthy Communities

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE

No. C95-162

In the matter of: Elizabeth A. Corrigan, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-37-5.2, 1956, as amended, (1995 Reenactment) a complaint was filed with the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (hereinafter referred to as "Board") charging Elizabeth A. Corrigan, M.D., Respondent, with violations of § 5-37-5.1. An investigation was conducted by Investigating Committee 2, so called, of the Board.

The following constitutes the Investigating Committee's Findings of Fact with respect to the professional performance of the Respondent.

Findings of Fact

1. The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline entered a Diversion Contract with the Respondent in 1995. The Respondent was reported non-compliant with the contract. The Respondent subsequently surrendered her license and ordered to enter treatment. She was granted a restricted license in May of 1997. She failed to comply with the terms of the restrictions which were:

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- a. Probation for a three year period
- b. Ongoing compliance with the terms of the agreement with Thomas Paolino, M.D. as outlined in his May 12, 1997 letter to the Board and compliance with the June 12, 1997 treatment program proposal of Jon Brett, PhD.
- c. Urine testing three times per week monitored by Dr.

 Paolino. The Board was to receive results of urine
 screen on a monthly basis from Dr. Paolino. Dr.

 Corrigan was to insure this requirement.
- d. Violation of the terms of this restricted license may mean the revocation of the license.
- 2. The restrictions and terms as outlined in the June, 1997 order were not fulfilled by the Respondent in that she:
 - a. arrived at an appointment at another physician's office while intoxicated within one week of regaining the restricted license;
 - b. failed to provide the Board with results of urine screens as required;
 - c. submitted liquid substances to the lab for testing to determine the presence of alcohol which were not urine and were submitted to deceive the lab; and
 - d. tested positive for alcohol while her license was restricted;
- 3. Dr. Corrigan has been non compliant with the terms of her restricted license in that she has failed to submit regular reports to the Board as required, submitted substances during

urine screening with the intent of deceiving the laboratory and the Board, failed to notify the Board of positive urine screens as required and failed to meet with and report to her supervisors in accordance with the terms of her licensure.

The parties agree as follows:

- (1) The Respondent is a physician licensed and doing business under and by virtue of the Laws of the State of Rhode Island, allopathic license number, 5121.
- (2) Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Board.
- understands that it is a proposal of Investigating Committee

 II of the Board and is subject to the final approval of the

 Board. This Consent Order is not binding on respondent until

 final ratification by the Board.
 - (4) Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
 - a. The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;
 - b. The right to produce witnesses and evidence in his behalf at a hearing;
 - c. The right to cross examine witnesses;
 - d. The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;
 - e. The right to further procedural steps except for specifically contained herein;
 - f. Any and all rights of appeal of this

Consent Order;

- g. Any objection to the fact that this consent Order will be presented to the Board for consideration and review;
- h. Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Board to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to review adequately this Consent Order;
- hias against the Respondent may occur as a result of the presentation of this Consent Order.
- Respondent, the Investigative Committee will recommend to the Board that an Administrative Hearing be scheduled with respect to any and all acts of alleged unprofessional conduct. If the Board approves, a Hearing Committee will be convened for the purpose of conducting the Administrative Hearing. The composition of the Hearing Committee is described by statute. If the Hearing Committee votes in favor of finding the Respondent guilty of unprofessional conduct as specified in the charges, the Board shall prepare written finding of fact and law in support of said conclusion. If the accused is found not guilty, the Board shall, forthwith, issue an order dismissing the charges.
 - (6) Acceptance of this Consent Order constitutes an

admission by the Respondent of the facts set forth herein.

- (7) This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties and by the Board.
- (8) Failure to comply with this Consent Order, when signed and accepted, shall subject the Respondent to further disciplinary action.
- (9) Respondent accepts the Board's finding of unprofessional conduct. Further, the Respondent surrenders voluntarily her license to practice medicine in the State of Rhode Island for a period of "dt" least one year. Respondent shall be required to enter and complete a 30 day program of in-patient evaluation and treatment for alcoholism before she will be eligible to apply for licensure in Rhode Island. Upon completion of the thirty day inpatient program she will be required to complete a contract with the Physician's Health Committee of the Massachusetts Medical Society. This contract shall include regular monitored chain of custody urine screens for alcohol and legal and illegal controlled substances. The Respondent is required to execute releases for all evaluation and treatment reports from providers. Further, if the Board permits the Respondent to return to the practice of medicine, she shall be on probation for a period of three (3) years during which time she must be monitored by the Physician's Health Committee and submit to any and all tests and alcohol and substance screens that the Committee or the Board shall deem necessary.

The Respondent shall be required to pay an Administrative Fee of Two Hundred and Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars within 60 days of ratification of this order.

Signed this

9

day of June

1998.

Elizabeth A. Corrigan, M.D.

Ratified by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline at a meeting held on 10 june 1998.

Patricia Molaw H) MPH
Patricia Nolan, MD, MPH
Chairperson
Board of Medical Licensure and
Discipline